## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

## IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended) A method of improving <u>turf conditions to improve</u> plant <u>growth</u> growing conditions over a specified area of soil, comprising the steps of:

aerating the soil of the specified area by punching uniform holes <u>of a given</u> diameter and depth in a uniform pattern in the area;

applying a selected granular aggregate uniformly over the area to at least partially fill the aerating uniform holes using a vehicle which dispenses the selected granular aggregate uniformly;

applying soil amendments uniformly over the area using a vehicle which dispenses the soil amendments uniformly; and

smoothing the area using a drag mat to even the distribution of the applied selected granular aggregate and cause the surface of the area to have a smooth appearance.

Claim 2 (Original) The method according to claim 1 and including the additional step of moistening the area with water before aerating the soil.

- Claim 3. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1 wherein the granular aggregate is sand.
- Claim 4. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 2 wherein the soil amendments include compost.
- Claim 5. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 2 wherein the soil amendments include fertilizer.

U.S. Pat. Appl. 10/644,017

Claim 6. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 2 wherein the soil amendments include compost and fertilizer.

Claim 7. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1 wherein a mycorrhizal fungus is applied before the application of the granular aggregate.

Claims 8 - 13 (Cancelled).